

MAR 17 2008

Attorney Docket No. 10139/06302 (00005-05PUS1)

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0010] Surprisingly, mechanical and clinical studies undertaken by the inventor, have revealed that of two different intramedullary nails having the same number of traversing holes clustered near the distal tip of the nail, the one with holes clustering closer ~~closed~~ to the tip of the nail is less likely to face failure through a screw hole than the intramedullary nail with greater hole spacing. Furthermore unused holes between the nail tip and x-position do not weaken the nail more than does the x-position hole. This is true for the same diameter.

[0015] 2) it gives the surgeon different anatomical position options for placement of screws to provide more secure bony fixation or to allow avoidance of ~~or~~ neurovascular structures; and

[0016] 3) it controls angular motion of the fragment with ~~which~~ respect to the intramedullary nail by way of a greater possible number of screws, screws in multiple directions, and closer fit of the screws in the holes.